

COUNTRY Polish occupied Germany REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC Military Information from Stolp and Stolpmuehle

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EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT Prior to mid-March 1951

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A DATE PREPARED 4 September 1951

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [REDACTED]

REMARKS [REDACTED]

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

Stolp.

1. Prior to February 1951, a Soviet unit was quartered in the former Mackensen Kaserne on the north side of former Bluecherstrasse in Stolp (P 55/N 08). In February, the German craftsmen employed with this unit were discharged. The Soviet troops left Stolp and were, according to German workers, transferred to Stettin (C 54/Q 55) or Koeslin (O 55/M 45). No Germans were taken along to the new post. The barracks was subsequently occupied by Poles.
2. Soviet soldiers were seen in the Mackensen Kaserne prior to late November 1950. Construction work was being done in the Bluecher Kaserne on the south side of Bluecherstrasse, opposite the Mackensen Kaserne. Large doors were being installed in the walls of the former stables. (1)
3. From December 1948 to May 1949, source worked as a fireman in the so-called Officers' and NCO school in Stolp. The school was located in the northern town sector, on the east bank of the Stolpe River, and included the former Lessing Schule. It was attended by 700 to 800 Polish officer and NCO candidates all of whom wore blue-grey uniforms with blue-grey epaulets. The uniform coat was worn with the collars turned open. NCO candidates had epaulets either without insignia or with a 10-mm crossbar. The rhombic collar patches were somewhat darker than the color of the uniform and were bordered with thin white piping. The trainees wore long trousers with short leggings and laced boots, black leather belts, and round service caps with blue-grey bands and fitted with a shiny visor bordered with brass. Officer candidates were distinguished from NCO candidates by two 5-mm silver stripes on both sleeves. Instructor officers were seen wearing breeches and riding boots. Some officer candidates wore brown trousers with leggings. The officer candidates were between 20 and 40 years old, the NCO candidates between 19 and 30. There were no Soviet personnel at the school. The courses were inspected by generals who came from Warsaw. The school, still existing in March 1951, maintained a small motor pool of 4 trucks and 4 passenger cars, which was located at the intersection of former Triftstrasse and former Reithbahnstrasse in Stolp. (2)

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- 25X1A 4. During the period from June 1949 and March 1951, 4 to 5 Polish tanks were frequently

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observed moving through Stolp in the direction of Schlawa (P 55/M 87). In the late fall of 1950, a tank unit with 6 to 8 Polish tanks, some of them with muzzle brakes, was observed coming from the direction of Stolpmuende (P 55/G 80). The unit was accompanied by some trucks with soldiers and 3 or 4 open-topped and lightly armored full-track vehicles towing light guns with pneumatic tires.

5. Trucks with sailors were repeatedly observed in Stolp, coming from the direction of Stolpmuende. Polish sailors were also seen in the streets of the city with the military police patrols which were furnished alternately by the units of the post every evening.
6. Prior to November 1950, Polish tanks, some of them with muzzle brakes, and soldiers wearing blue-grey uniforms were frequently observed in the streets of Stolp. Soldiers wearing khaki uniforms may also have belonged to the tank units or to the units accompanying the tanks.
7. In the fall of 1950, the new Polish Army uniform was seen on Polish troops in the new barracks installation on the north side of the road to Gumbinnen (P 55/M 08). The uniform consisted of an olive-drab coat with epaulets to match, long black trousers with a broad yellow stripe along the leg seams, a brown belt, and an olive-drab service cap with a black leather visor, a red band and, above the visor, rank insignia consisting of silver stripes, each about 20 x 5 mm. Also blue service color was observed with the troops in the new barracks installation. (3)

Stolpmuende.

8. An AAA range was located near Stolpmuende on the west bank of the Stolpe River. It was bounded by former Eldoradoweg on the east and by the railroad line to Schlawa on the south. In the summer of 1949, the eastern portion of the range was guarded by Polish soldiers. Source was positive that he had also seen Soviet soldiers at the range at that time. Polish sentries stated that AAA troops practiced firing at the range. (4)

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Comments.

- (1) The units in the Bluecher Kaserne and the Mackensen Kaserne cannot be identified on the basis of the information.
- (2) The training center of the Militia (MO) which has been repeatedly reported. See
- (3) The report confirms Polish tank units in Stolp. According to confirmed information by resettlers, these units are quartered in the new barracks installation on the road to Gumbinnen. Also infantry units are quartered in a section of the installation.
- (4) The AAA range was established and used by the former German Air Force. In the summer of 1949, it was allegedly used by the Polish Navy for training.

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